

NPSG.01.01.01: Use at least two patient identifiers when providing care, treatment, and services.

**Why this goal is important to safe practice**

Wrong-patient errors occur in virtually all stages of diagnosis and treatment. The intent for this goal is two-fold: first, to reliably identify the individual as the person for whom the service or treatment is intended; second, to match the service or treatment to that individual. Acceptable identifiers may be the individual's name, an assigned identification number, telephone number, or other person-specific identifier.

**Elements of Performance**

- 1 Use at least two patient identifiers when administering medications, blood, or blood components; when collecting blood samples and other specimens for clinical testing; and when providing treatments or procedures. The patient's room number or physical location is not used as an identifier.
- 2 Label containers used for blood and other specimens in the presence of the patient.

**Selected MGH Policies and Procedures Related to this Goal (in Trove):**

Clinical Policy and Procedure Manual

- Identity Verification
- Specimen Rejection

Nursing Procedure Manual

- 01. General Procedures - Blood Sampling: venipuncture
- 06-01-01-Transfusion Therapy
- 08-01-07 - Medication Administration
- 08-01-07A- EMAPPS: Electronic Medication Administration Process for Patient Safety
- 14-06-01- Procedure for Blood Glucose Testing Using Precision-Xceed Pro Monitor